

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric which has a thickness of from 0.05 to 1 mm, a weight per a unit area of from 60 to 250 g/m², a bending resistance (L) as determined by the 45° Cantilever method of 6 cm or higher, and an in-plane volume resistivity of 0.2 Ω cm or lower,

wherein the fabric comprises a binder or a product of carbonization of the binder in an amount of from 10 to 40% by weight and comprises carbonaceous fibers bonded to one another with the binder or its carbonization product through point contact,

wherein the binder or its carbonization product is present discontinuously as particles on the surface of the fibers, wherein the carbonaceous fibers are obtained by spraying or applying a dispersion of fine particles of a semicured thermosetting resin, optionally conducting drying, pressing or both drying and pressing, and then completely curing the resin, and

wherein said conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric is obtained by weaving the yarns of carbonaceous fibers.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1, which has an air permeability as determined in accordance with JIS L 1096, method A (frazil method) of from 50 to 150 cm³/cm²•sec, the air permeability being a measure of the gas-diffusing properties of the fabric.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1, which has a thickness of from 0.1 to 0.5 mm.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1, which has a weight per a unit area of from 80 to 200 g/m².

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1, which has a bending resistance (L) as determined by the 45° Cantilever method of 8 cm or higher.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1, which comprises carbonaceous fiber monofilaments having a diameter of from 6 to 50 μm .

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1, which has an in-plane volume resistivity of 0.07 Ωcm or lower.

Claims 8-14 (Canceled).

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1, which has a degree of fluffing of from the second to the fifth grade in terms of the index as determined through a fluff grade test.

Claims 16-29 (Canceled).

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): A solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell which employs the conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1 as a gas diffusion layer material.

Claim 31 (Canceled).

Claim 32 (Original): A motor vehicle having the solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell as claimed in claim 30 mounted therein.

Claim 33 (Canceled).

Claim 34 (Original): A cogeneration power system having the solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell as claimed in claim 30 installed therein.

Claims 35-36 (Canceled).

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): A solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell which employs the conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 15 as a gas diffusion layer material.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carbonaceous fibers are oriented.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carbonaceous fibers are axially oriented to one another.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carbonaceous fibers are twisted yarns.

Claim 41 (Canceled).

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the point contact is present between two fibers.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the point contact is between a particle of a thermosetting resin and at least two fibers.

Claims 44-45 (Canceled).

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the point contact is 200 μm or smaller.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the point contact is 50 μm or smaller.

Claim 48 (Canceled):